Chapter 10

Chapter 10 - Objectives, Policy and Scope of Operations

Mission Statement

The principal mission for the California Geographic Area Coordination Centers (GACC) is the cost-effective and timely coordination of wildland protection agency emergency response for wildland fire and all risk incidents. This is accomplished through planning, situation monitoring and expediting resource usage between the Forest Service (USFS), California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), National Weather Service (NWS), Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CAL OES) and other cooperating agencies.

The California Interagency Mobilization Guide identifies standard procedures, which guide the operations of multi-agency logistical support activity throughout the coordination system. This guide is intended to facilitate interagency dispatch coordination, ensuring the timeliest and most cost effective incident support services available are provided. Communication between Units, GACCs, State, Regional Offices and other cooperative agencies are addressed in each section of the California Interagency Mobilization Guide as they apply to that section.The California Interagency Mobilization Guide is designed to accommodate amendments as needed and will be retained as current material until amended. The California Interagency Mobilization Guide is used to supplement the National Interagency Mobilization Guide. This guide is governed by each of the signatory agency's policy and procedures. Additional information not found in this reference can be obtained by contacting the GACC.

The California GACCs, the Emergency Command Centers (ECC)/Dispatch Centers and their respective Duty Chiefs/Officers have many responsibilities, the most important of which are effective and timely communications with and service to the field. All levels of dispatching and coordination involving the various agencies throughout the state must provide for continuous and adequate communication. The GACCs, ECCs and Duty Chiefs/Officers must ensure that responsible officials are kept current on resource availability.

Geographic Area Coordination Centers

There are two GACCs within the State of California and they will follow the established mobilization procedures identified in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide. The GACCs act as focal points for internal and external requests not filled at the Unit level.
Each GACC's Federal and CAL FIRE Duty Chief, through their dispatching organization, are responsible for providing coordination of all National, Regional, and Unit resources located within their respective geographic area. Each Duty Chief must maintain awareness of resource commitment and availability in order to enable adequate coordination between the neighboring GACCs and other agencies within the state.

Northern California GACC (Northern Operations – North Ops - NOPS)
North Ops provides coordination and dispatch services for the northern California National Forests, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, CAL FIRE and Pacific Islands for the NPS.
North Ops is located on the Northern California Service Center compound in Redding.

Southern California GACC (Southern Operations – South Ops - SOPS)
South Ops provides coordination and dispatch services for the southern California National Forests, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, CAL FIRE and FEMA assignments for Hawaii and Pacific Trust Territories.
South Ops is located at the CAL FIRE Southern Region Headquarters in Riverside.

Unit Level

Unit Duty Chiefs and Duty Officers, through their dispatchers, are responsible for the coordination and use of resources within their span of control. Procedures are established for notifying the Coordination Center when Regional or National resources are committed.

In this and the following chapters, the term "Unit" refers to Forests, CAL FIRE Units, BLM Districts, National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, National Monuments, and other resource providers that have their own dispatch centers.

Incident Priorities

When competition for resources occurs among the Units, the GACCs will use the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS) process to establish incident priorities.
For MACS Organization Chart, refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide Chapter 10.
For MACS Process, refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide Chapter 10.

Initial Attack

Initial Attack will be defined, as per the 2013 California Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (CFMA).

Initial Attack: A planned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential fire behavior. The objective of initial attack is to stop the fire and put it out in a manner consistent with firefighter and public safety and values to be protected.

Initial Attack Period**:** The first 24 hours, or by written local agreement.

Initial Attack Fire**:** Fire that is generally contained by the resources first dispatched, without a significant augmentation of reinforcements, within two hours after initial attack, and full control is expected within the first burning period.

Initial Attack Zone: An identified area in which predetermined resources would normally be the initial resource to respond to an incident.

Immediate Need

The intent of ordering immediate need resources is to provide the closest available resource using normal dispatching procedures to meet the incidents specific need. Immediate need requests will be filled with the closest available resources. The intent of immediate need resources is that those resources will be utilized immediately upon arrival to the incident. Immediate need requests may create a draw down staffing situation and the sending Unit may need to order and back fill replacement resources. It is essential that the receiving Unit communicate resource status to reduce un-needed resource orders for back fill purposes.

Drawdown for Initial Attack (IA)

Drawdown is established by the local Unit based on their standard operating procedures. For CAL FIRE, reference CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy 8121. For the Federal agencies, reference the Unit Fire Management Plan.

When available resources are drawn down to a critical level, the Unit is responsible for advising their respective GACC of the situation, including any anticipated shortages and projected needs. This information enables the GACCs to adjudicate allocation of available resources within California, and, if feasible, to provide resources for national needs.

When availability of Unit resources within a geographic area is drawn down to critical levels, the affected GACC is responsible for advising the adjacent GACC, NICC and CAL FIRE Headquarters of the current situation, including anticipated shortages and projected needs. This information is needed in order to ensure effective allocation of the remaining available resources.

Mobilization/Demobilization

The GACCs will coordinate the movements of resources across Unit dispatch boundaries not covered by local operating plans or agency specific policy.

All agencies will follow the *closest resource concept* for initial attack. Established dispatch channels will be followed at all times.

Work/Rest Guidelines

Federal

Work/Rest Guidelines and Days Off policy are outlined in the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations, and the Incident Response Pocket Guide. All resources which have been requested to extend will complete and follow the instructions on the Resource Extension Request form. Refer to California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Appendix A for a link to this form.

CAL FIRE

For CAL FIRE Work/Rest Guidelines, reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 7700, policy 7757.

Incident Operations Driving

For Federal agencies, reference the National Interagency Mobilization Guide and the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations.

For CAL FIRE, reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 6400, policy 6557 and CAL FIRE Handbook 7000, policy 7060.

Resource Mobilization

The Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) is the only ordering system to be used by all California Units. It will be used to:

- Create new incidents
- Order and mobilize resources
- Track resources and their status

Resource status shall be continually updated in ROSS.

For California incident mobilization, use the Interagency Standards for the ROSS Operations Guide (ISROG) located at the following website: http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/references/ISROG.pdf and augmented by the California ROSS Business Practices and Standards guide: http://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/logistics/docs/12_ross_business_practices.pdf**.**

Notification of Commitment of Resources

In addition to national mobilization guidelines, the Units will notify GACCs of resource commitment. Per the California ROSS Business Practices and Standards Guide, notification to the GACCs will be as follows:

- Commitment of aircraft will be entered at the time of dispatch, so aircraft status will be current.
- Commitment of crews will be entered within ten (10) minutes.
- If after thirty (30) minutes, it appears the incident will continue to impact a Unit's resource base, the Unit's equipment and overhead resources will be entered into ROSS.
- Any request for resources from outside the Unit, other than IA, *must* be entered and placed in ROSS immediately.

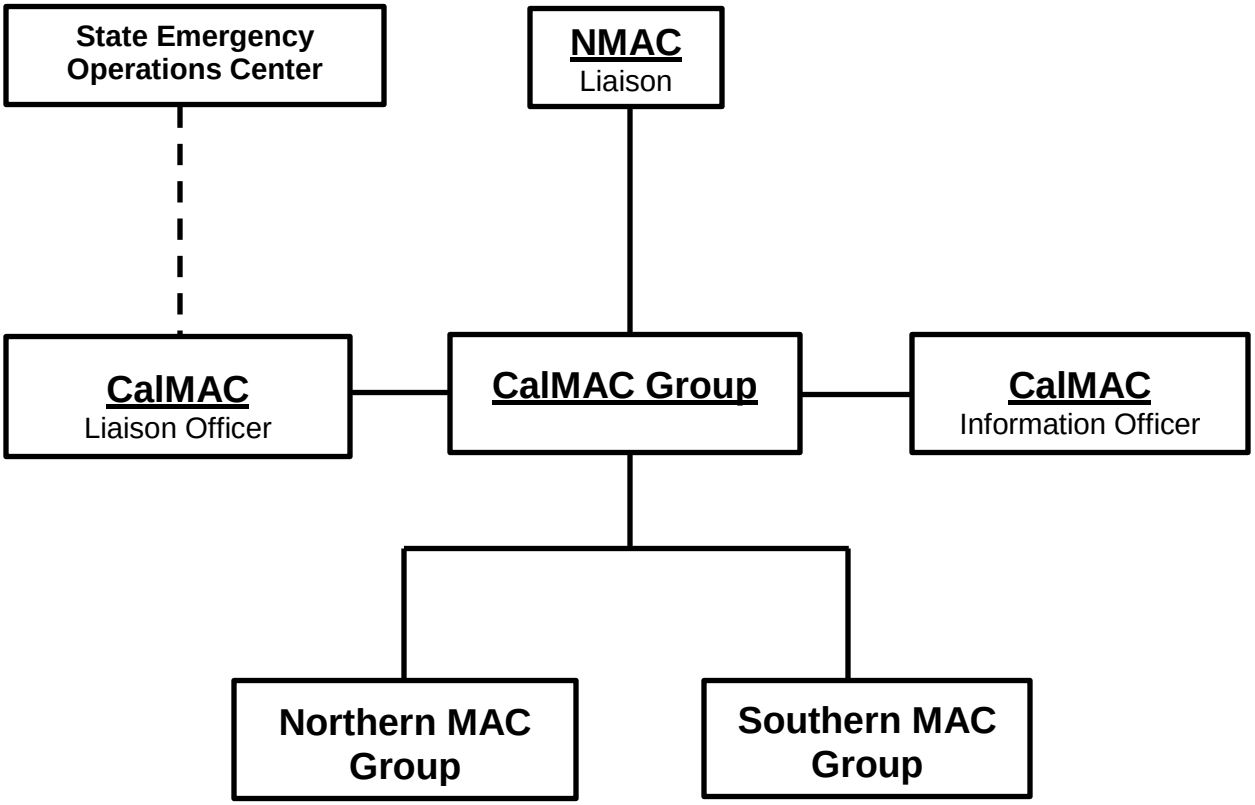
Wildland Fire Weather Forecasts

In California, the National Weather Service will produce daily fire weather forecasts (by agreement) from the representative office.

In Hawaii, the Honolulu office of the National Weather Service will produce daily fire weather forecast covered by the Fire Weather Operations Plan.

California Fire Service Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS) Organizational Structure
http://www.firescope.org/macs-docs/MACS-410-1.pdf

The following organizational structure displays a FIRESCOPE MODE 3 and 4 or a National Preparedness Level 4 and 5 activation.



MAC Group Purpose and Function

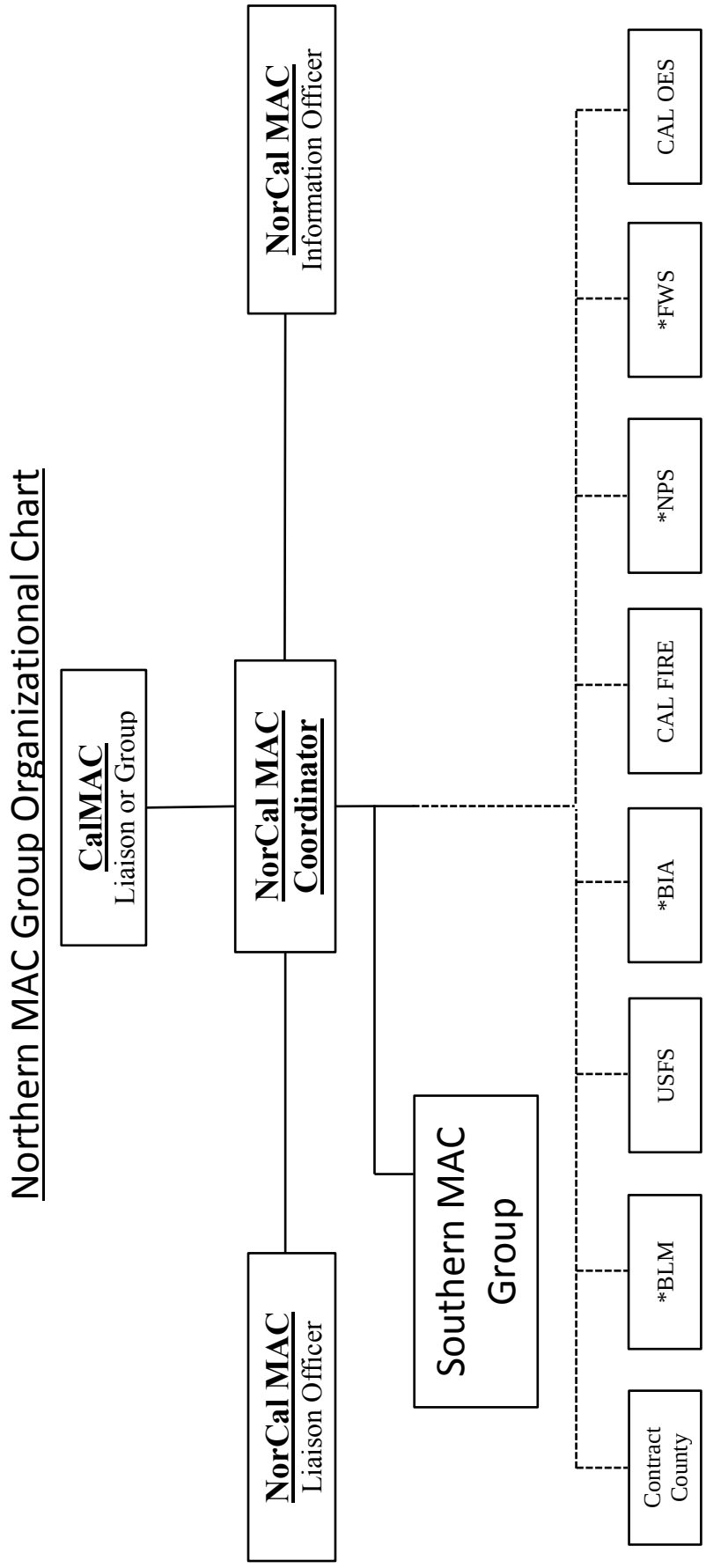
A MAC Group typically consists of Agency Administrators or their designees who are authorized to commit agency resources and funds. Their function is to support incident management through coordinating their collective resources, sharing incident information and implementing coordinated strategic policies to prevent and/or combat growing emergency(s). In order to accomplish this objective the MAC Group must establish a common operating plan. The area represented can be a City, County/Operational Area, Region, such as one of the six CAL OES Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Regions or a Geographic Area, such as Northern and Southern California Geographic Areas or a Statewide MAC Group such as CalMAC.

MAC Group objectives in coordinating finances, equipment, personnel and resources are:

1) Establish priorities for response.
2) Allocate critical resources based on established priorities.
3) Establish and/or implement communication systems integration.
4) Ensure Information coordination both internally and externally.
5) Establish intergovernmental decision coordination, develop strategies and contingency plans.

It is extremely important that MAC Group members have full authority from their respective agencies to commit resources, including equipment and personnel, and fully represent their agency or department in MAC Group decisions.

Northern MAC Group Organizational Chart



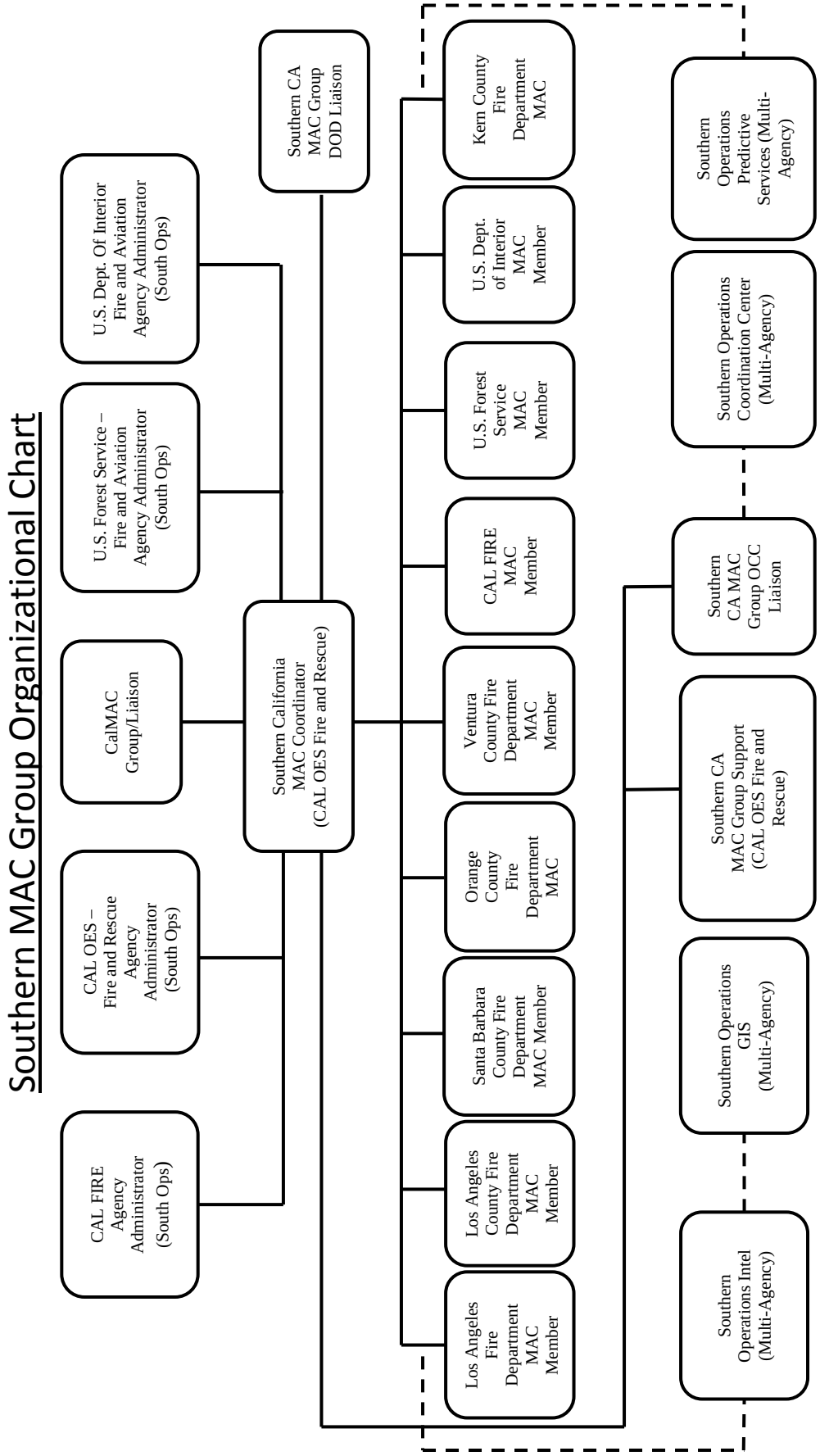
----- Dotted line denotes the agencies that could be represented during Preparedness Levels 4 and 5. This list is not all inclusive.

The Northern California Multi-Agency Coordination Group (NorCal MAC) acts as the geographic area authority to:

- **Evaluate incident situation status reports and organizational resource status reports, as provided by the Northern California Geographic Area Units.**
- **Provide oversight for geographic area allocation of scarce and/or limited resources based on established priorities.**
- **Develop geographic area incident priorities and submit to CalMAC for evaluation and inclusion in national incident priorities.**

*** DOI agencies may be represented at MAC by one DOI representative.**

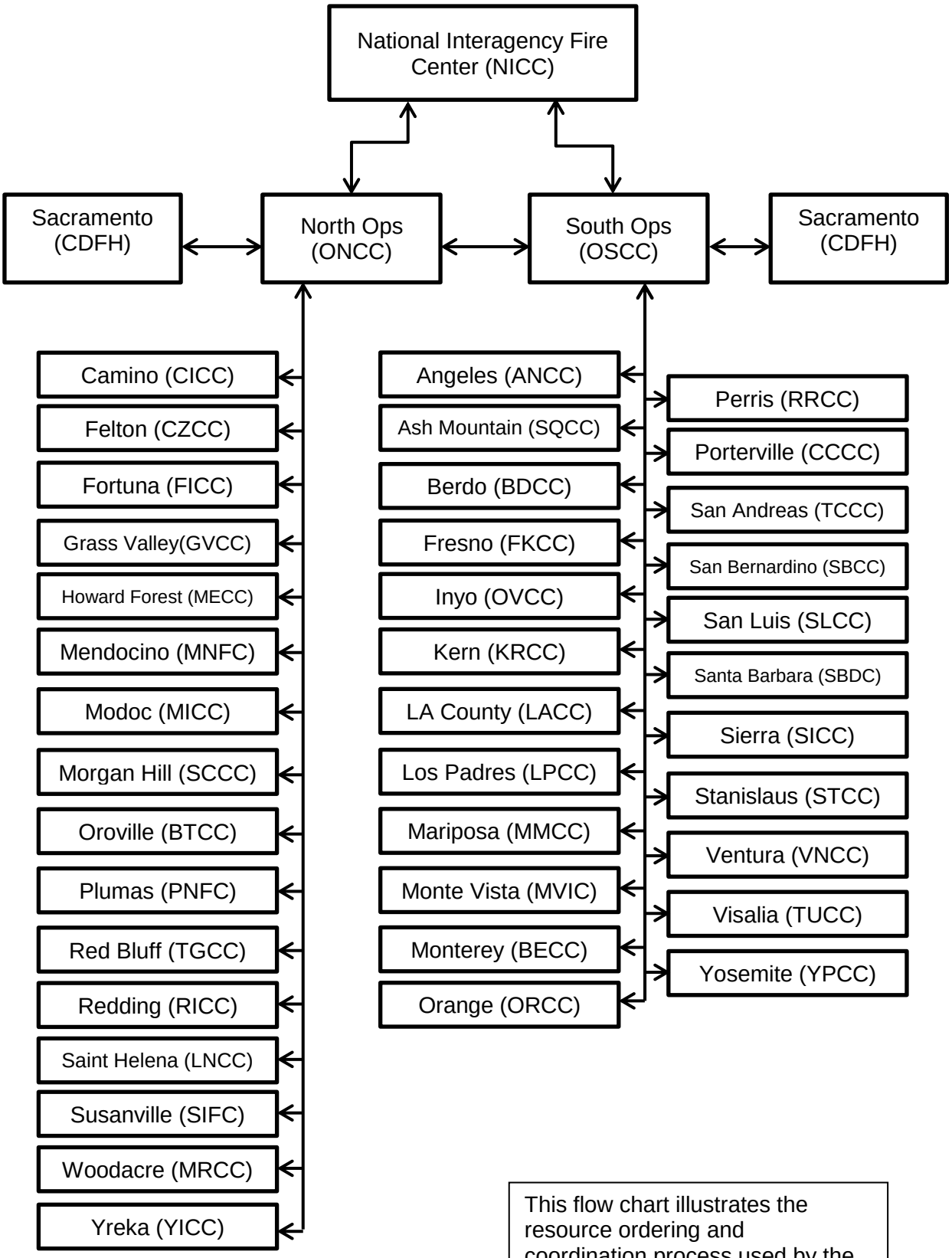
Southern MAC Group Organizational Chart



The Southern California Multi-Agency Coordination group (Southern California MAC) acts as the Geographic Area authority to:

- **Evaluate incident situation status reports and organizational resource status reports, as provided by the Southern California geographic area Units.**
- **Provide oversight for geographic area allocation of scarce and/or limited resources based on established priorities.**
- **Provide written and verbal communication of MACS priority settings out to the following entities:**
  - **Applicable Agency Administrators**
  - **OCC MACS Liaison**
  - **FIRESCOPE Member Agencies**

Wildland Agency Geographic Coordination Flow Chart



This flow chart illustrates the resource ordering and coordination process used by the California wildland agencies.

***** The Center ROSS designators are identified by the four letters in parenthesis. Center is identified by Intercom call sign, not the Radio call sign.

CENTER	UNITS REPRESENTED
Northern California GACC North Ops (ONCC)	*Federal (ONC) *State (CNR) FS Regional Office, CAL FIRE Northern Region, BLM California State Office, NPS Regional Office, BIA Area Office, FWS Regional Office
Camino (CICC)	*Eldorado National Forest (ENF) Tahoe Basin Management Unit (TMU) *Amador-Eldorado Unit (AEU)
Felton (CZCC)	*San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit (CZU)
Fortuna (FICC)	*Six Rivers National Forest (SRF) *Humboldt-Del Norte Unit (HUU) Redwoods National Park (RWP) Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge (HBR) Hoopa Valley Tribe (HIA)
Grass Valley (GVCC)	*Tahoe National Forest (TNF) *Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit (NEU)
Howard Forest (MECC)	*Mendocino Unit (MEU)
Mendocino (MNFC)	*Mendocino National Forest (MNF) Central Valley Refuges North (SWR) Point Reyes National Seashore (RNP) Golden Gate NRA (GNP) Round Valley Indian Reservation (RVA) Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (HI-HVP)
Modoc (MICC)	*Modoc National Forest (MDF) Lower Klamath Refuge (LKR) Lava Beds National Monument (BNP)
Morgan Hill (SCCC)	*Santa Clara Unit (SCU)
Oroville (BTCC)	*Butte Unit (BTU)
Plumas (PNFC)	*Plumas National Forest (PNF)
Red Bluff (TGCC)	*Tehama-Glenn Unit (TGU)
Redding (RICC)	*Shasta-Trinity National Forest (SHF) Whiskeytown National Recreation Area (WNP) *Shasta-Trinity Unit (SHU)
Saint Helena (LNCC)	*Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit (LNU)
Susanville (SIFC)	*NorCal BLM (NOD) *Lassen National Forest (LNF) *Lassen-Modoc Unit (LMU) Lassen Volcanic National Park (LNP)
Woodacre (MRCC)	*Marin County Fire Department (MRN)
Yreka (YICC)	*Klamath National Forest (KNF) * Siskiyou Unit (SKU)

* Agency has staffing in the ECC

The center ROSS designators are identified by the four letters in parenthesis. Center is identified by intercom call sign, not the radio call sign.

State and county centers have 24 hour staffing.

Federal centers have personnel available on call after normal business hours

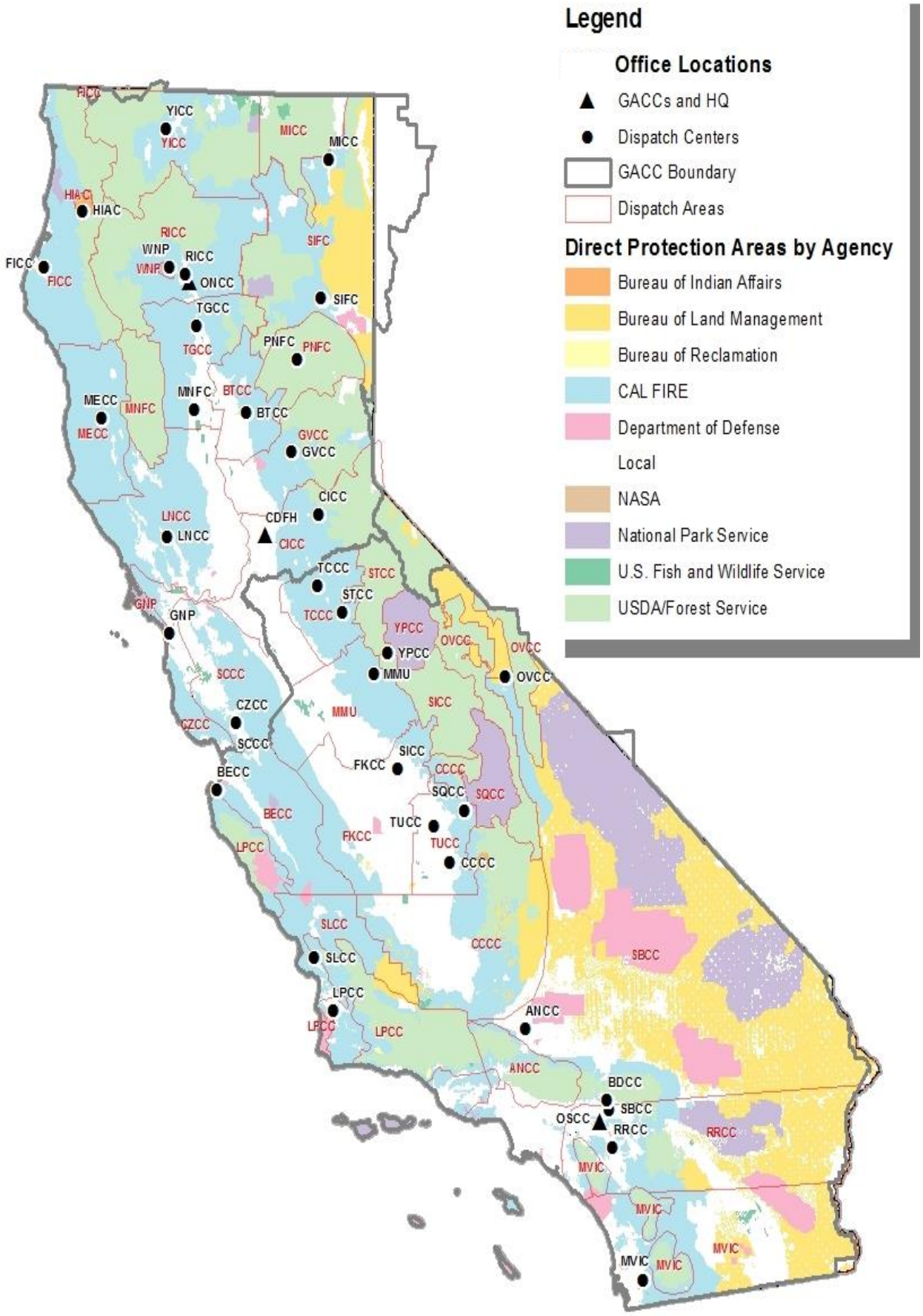
CENTER	UNITS REPRESENTED
Southern California GACC South Ops (OSCC)	*Federal (OSC) *State (CSR) CAL FIRE Southern Region
Angeles (ANCC)	*Angeles National Forest (ANF) *Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMP)
Ash Mountain (SQCC)	*Sequoia-Kings National Park (KNP)
Berdo (BDCC)	*San Bernardino Unit (BDU)
Fresno (FKCC)	*Fresno-Kings Unit (FKU)
Inyo (OVCC)	*Inyo National Forest (INF) *Bishop Field Office-BLM (OVD) Devil's Postpile National Monument (DPP) Manzanar National Historic Site (MZP)
Kern (KRCC)	*Kern County Fire Department (KRN)
LA. County (LACC)	*Los Angeles County Fire Department (LAC)
Los Padres (LPCC)	*Los Padres National Forest (LPF) Channel Islands National Park (CNP)
Mariposa (MMCC)	*Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit (MMU)
Monte Vista (MVIC)	*Cleveland National Forest (CNF) *Monte Vista Unit (MVU) Southern California Refuge (TNR) Camp Pendleton Marine Base (MCP)
Monterey (BECC)	*San Benito-Monterey Unit (BEU)
Orange (ORCC)	*Orange County Fire Department (ORC)
Perris (RRCC)	*Riverside Unit (RRU)
Porterville (CCCC)	*Sequoia National Forest (SQF) *Bakersfield BLM (CND) Tule Indian Reservation (TIA) Kern National Wildlife Refuge (KRR)
San Andreas (TCCC)	*Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit (TCU)
San Bernardino (SBCC)	*San Bernardino National Forest (BDF) *California Desert District (CDD) Death Valley National Park (DVP) Mojave National Preserve (MNP) Southern California Agencies (SCA) Joshua Tree National Park (JTP)
San Luis (SLCC)	*San Luis Obispo Unit (SLU)
Santa Barbara (SBDC)	*Santa Barbara County Fire (SBC)
Sierra (SICC)	*Sierra National Forest (SNF) San Luis National Wildlife Refuge (LUR)
Stanislaus (STCC)	*Stanislaus National Forest (STF)
Ventura (VNCC)	*Ventura County Fire Department (VNC)
Visalia (TUCC)	*Tulare Unit (TUU)
Yosemite (YPCC)	*Yosemite National Park (YNP)

* Agency has staffing in the ECC

The center ROSS designators are identified by the four letters in parenthesis. Center is identified by intercom call sign, not the radio call sign.

State, county, Angeles, San Bernardino and Monte Vista centers have 24 hour staffing. ***All other federal centers have personnel available on call after normal business hours.***

Geographic Boundry Map



CAL OES FIRE AND RESCUE REGIONAL MAP

CAL OES Fire and Rescue Regional Assistant Chief and Mutual Aid Coordinators

CAL OES Fire and Rescue Division
Regional Assistant Chiefs
And Mutual Aid Coordinators

Region I – Assistant Chief
Ishmael Messer
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Ishmael.messer@CALOES.ca.gov

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Region II – Assistant Chief
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Region IV – Assistant Chief
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Region V – Assistant Chief
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Region VI – Assistant Chief
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Los Angeles County
Fire Department
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24 Hours: (323) 881-2455

Region II – Coordinator
Doug Williams
Alameda County
Fire Department
Admin: (510) 618-3490
24 Hours: (925) 245-0420

Region III – Coordinator
Mike Hebrard
CAL FIRE
Northern Region Operations
Admin: (530) 224-2462
24 Hours: (530) 224-2434

Region IV – Coordinator
Ron Phillips
Folsom Fire Department
Admin: (530) 823-4211
Ext. 172
24 Hours: (530) 273-3222

Region V – Coordinator
Mark A. Johnson
Fresno County Fire
Protection District
Admin: (559) 493-4300
24 Hours: (559) 292-5271

Region VI – Coordinator
Dale Hutchinson
CAL FIRE
Southern Region Operations
Admin: (951) 320-6200
24 Hours: (951) 320-6197

CAL OES
Fire & Rescue Division
Sacramento Headquarters
3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, CA 95655
Fire & Rescue Division: (916) 845-8711
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State Fire and Rescue Chief
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FLEET OPERATIONS
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FIRE ADMINISTRATION
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Assistant Chief – Mike Lococo – Redding
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HAZ-MAT
Deputy Chief – Thomas Campbell
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California Fire and Rescue Ordering Process

Forest agencies (federal and CAL FIRE) in California may request assistance from Local Government fire department resources (overhead, engines, water tenders) via the CFAA Agreement; these requests are placed in ROSS from the forest agency dispatch center to the CAL OES Operational Area which is currently threatened.

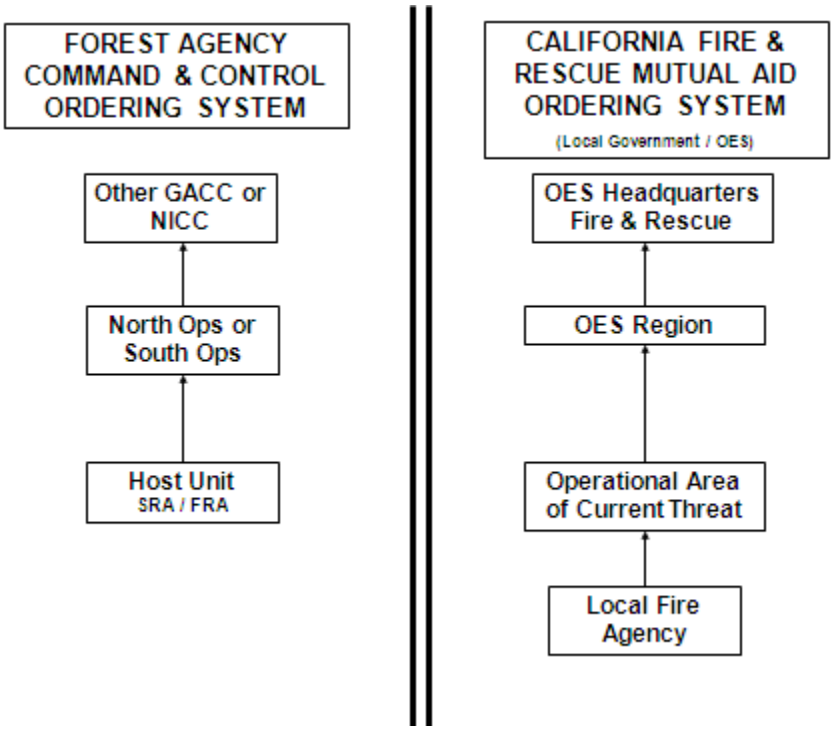
Operational Area dispatch centers will fill the requests with resources from within the Operational Area or once exhausted place outstanding requests to the CAL OES Regional dispatch center.

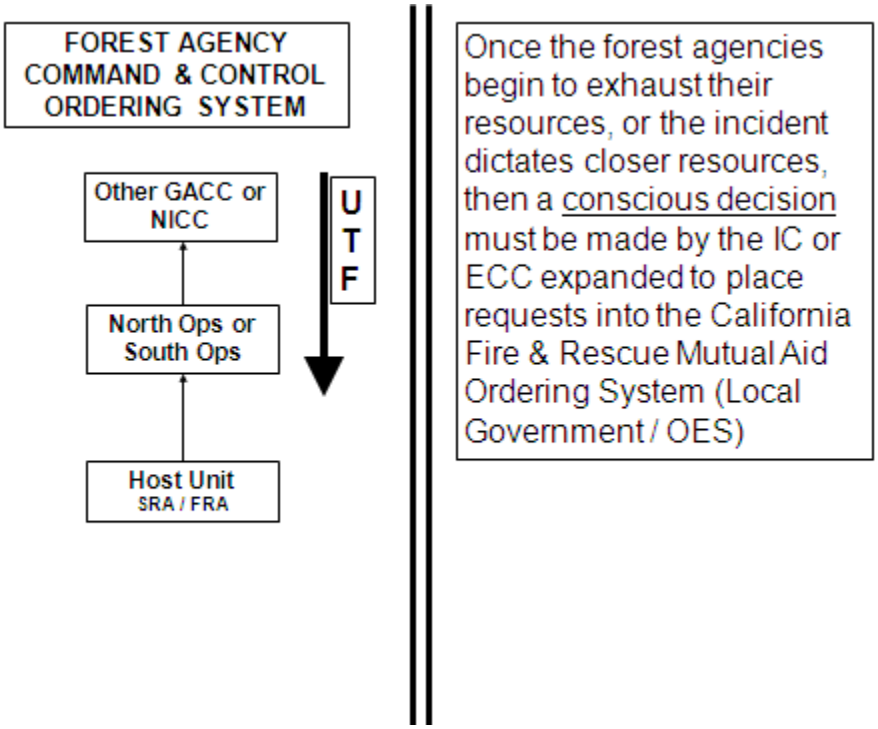
CAL OES Regional dispatch centers will place outstanding request to other Operational Areas within their Region or when all Operational Areas within their Region are exhausted will place requests to CAL OES Sacramento (OESH).

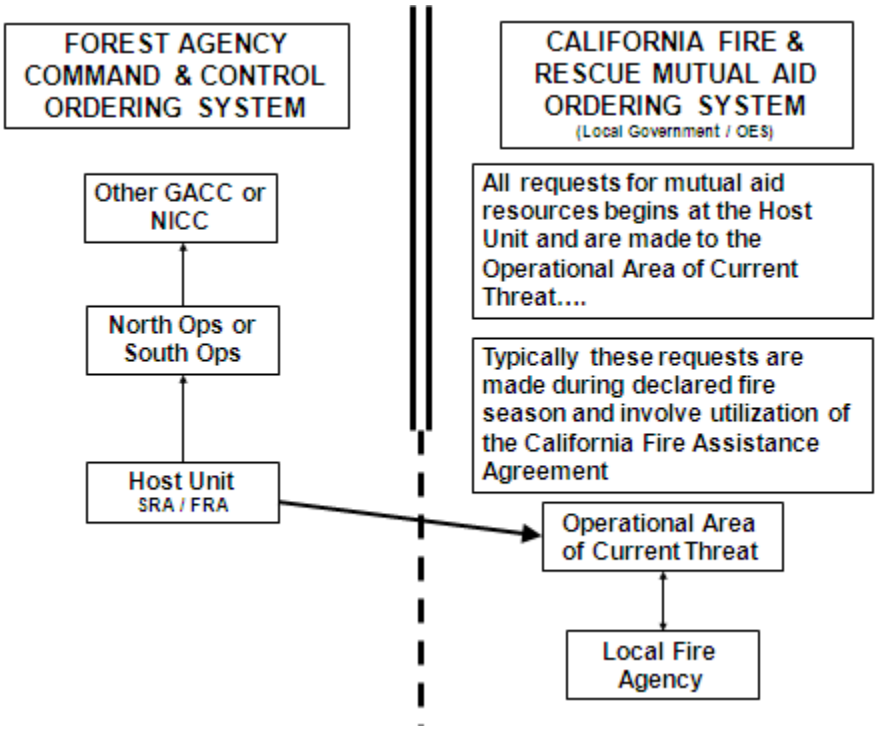
OESH will place outstanding requests to other CAL OES Regions in the state for processing.

Reference CAL OES Operations Bulletin 1 – Closest Resource Concept.
http://www.CALOES.ca.gov/FireandRescue/Documents/Bulletins/Operations%20Bulletin%2001%202010.pdf

The diagrams below illustrate the Forest Agency and California Fire and Rescue ordering process




FOREST AGENCY COMMAND & CONTROL ORDERING SYSTEM
Other GACC or NICC
North Ops or South Ops
Host Unit SRA / FRA
U T F
Once the forest agencies begin to exhaust their resources, or the incident dictates closer resources, then a conscious decision must be made by the IC or ECC expanded to place requests into the California Fire & Rescue Mutual Aid Ordering System (Local Government / OES)


FOREST AGENCY COMMAND & CONTROL ORDERING SYSTEM
CALIFORNIA FIRE & RESCUE MUTUAL AID ORDERING SYSTEM
(Local Government / OES)
Other GACC or NICC
North Ops or South Ops
Host Unit SRA / FRA
All requests for mutual aid resources begins at the Host Unit and are made to the Operational Area of Current Threat....
Typically these requests are made during declared fire season and involve utilization of the California Fire Assistance Agreement
Operational Area of Current Threat
Local Fire Agency

CAL OES Region/Operational Area ROSS Responsibility

CAL OES Region/Operational Area	ROSS Responsibility
CAL OES Region 1	Los Angeles County Fire
XLA-Los Angeles County Area A	Los Angeles City Fire
XLB-Los Angeles County Area B	Los Angeles County Fire
XLC-Los Angeles County Area C	Verdugo Fire Communication Center
XLE-Los Angeles County Area E	Los Angeles County Fire
XLF-Los Angeles County Area F	Los Angeles County Fire
XLG-Los Angeles County Area G	Los Angeles County Fire
XOR-Orange County	Orange County Fire Authority
XSL-San Luis Obispo County	CAL FIRE, SLU
XSB-Santa Barbara County	Santa Barbara County Fire
XVE-Ventura County	Ventura County Fire
CAL OES Region 2	Alameda County Fire
XAL-Alameda County	Alameda County Fire
XCC-Contra Costa County	Contra Costa County FPD
XDN-Del Norte County	CAL FIRE, HUU
XHU-Humboldt County	CAL FIRE, HUU
XLK-Lake County	Alameda County Fire
XMR-Marin County	Marin County Fire
XME-Mendocino County	CAL FIRE, MEU
XMY-Monterey County	CAL FIRE, BEU
XNA-Napa County	CAL FIRE, LNU
XBE-San Benito County	CAL FIRE, BEU

CAL OES Region/Operational Area	ROSS Responsibility
XSF-San Francisco County	Alameda County Fire
XSM-San Mateo County	Alameda County Fire
XSC-Santa Clara County	Santa Clara County Fire
XCZ-Santa Cruz County	CAL FIRE, CZU
XSO-Solano County	Alameda County Fire
XSN-Sonoma County	Red Com JPA
CAL OES Region 3	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XBU-Butte County	CAL FIRE, BTU
XCO-Colusa County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XGL-Glenn County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XLS-Lassen County	CAL FIRE, LMU
XMO-Modoc County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XPU-Plumas County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XSH-Shasta County	CAL FIRE, SHU
XSI-Sierra County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XSK-Siskiyou County	CAL FIRE, SKU
XSU-Sutter County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XTE-Tehama County	CAL FIRE, TGU
XTR-Trinity County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XYU-Yuba County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
CAL OES Region 4	CAL FIRE, NEU
XAP-Alpine County	CAL FIRE, NEU
XAM-Amador County	CAL FIRE, AEU

XCA-Calaveras County	CAL FIRE, TCU
CAL OES Region/Operational Area	**ROSS Responsibility**
XED-El Dorado County	CAL FIRE, AEU
XNE-Nevada County	CAL FIRE, NEU
XPL-Placer County	Placer County Sheriff
XSA-Sacramento County	Sac Regional JPA
XSJ-San Joaquin County	CAL FIRE, NEU
XST-Stanislaus County	CAL FIRE, NEU
XTB-Tahoe Basin Area	CAL FIRE, NEU
XTO-Tuolumne County	CAL FIRE, TCU
XYO-Yolo County	CAL FIRE, NEU
CAL OES Region 5	CAL FIRE, FKU
XFR-Fresno County	CAL FIRE, FKU
XKE-Kern County	Kern County Fire
XKI-Kings County	CAL FIRE, FKU
XMA-Madera County	CAL FIRE, MMU
XMP-Mariposa County	CAL FIRE, MMU
XMD-Merced County	CAL FIRE, MMU
XTU-Tulare County	Tulare County Fire
CAL OES Region 6	CAL FIRE, SOPS
XIM-Imperial County	CAL FIRE, SOPS
XIN-Inyo County	CAL FIRE, SOPS
XMN-Mono County	CAL FIRE, SOPS
XRI-Riverside County	CAL FIRE, RRU
XBO-San Bernardino County	San Bernardino County Fire

Communication

The formal route of communications for the Unit/Forest/Local government level is through the GACC Federal and CAL FIRE Duty Chief. The Duty Chiefs are responsible for briefing their organizations in the procedures of incident information flow and for assuring timely exchange of information with minimal disruption to the dispatch function. These guidelines are offered to assist the Duty Chief in briefing their personnel. The following items give some general indicators of situations that should prompt contact between agencies and with the Federal, CAL FIRE Regions and Headquarter levels.

- When large incidents, incidents in a sensitive area, or multiple incidents occur.
- When geographic area federal or state resources are becoming depleted.
- When resources are being moved outside of their assigned GACC.
- When an Incident Management Team is mobilized for an incident.
- When structures or property are destroyed, or serious injuries or aircraft accidents occur.
- Fire Directors and California Wildland Coordinating Group (CWCG) will be notified when preparedness levels are adjusted due to suppression activity in their Geographical Area or the adjacent Geographical Areas.

Aircraft

For all aircraft procedures and details, refer to California Interagency Mobilization Guide Chapter 50.

Mobilization

All resource requests will be submitted using the Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS). Requests for all tactical aircraft will be made using the state intercom and the FC 106 Script to expedite the requests.
Refer to California Interagency Mobilization Guide Chapter 50 and California Interagency Mobilization Guide Appendix A.

Unit Dispatch Procedures
California will provide all-risk dispatching services through existing dispatch centers that are consistent with the needs and schedules of field going employees.

- Each Unit will provide for its own dispatching needs. Standardized dispatching procedures will be used at each dispatching level within California.
- Dispatching procedures are developed so that each Unit will dispatch to the extent of its available resources before requesting additional aid from the GACC.
- Units will pre-plan and identify all mutual aid assistance/move-up of resources between adjoining Units, including those in other geographic areas/States and other agencies. Resource commitments should be limited to those resources that could be expected to provide effective initial attack, or fast follow-up to initial attack, within the established areas for mutual assistance. It is the responsibility of the sending Unit to notify the appropriate GACC whenever action is taken under one of these plans.
- Units will work directly with other dispatch centers, county and city fire departments, and local and state law enforcement agencies in their Unit or GACC's area of influence. They will keep the GACC advised of all mobilization/demobilization of personnel/crews and aircraft received through this procedure.
- Units will handle all dispatching procedures for agency personnel during scheduled field operation hours. CAL FIRE Emergency Command Centers are staffed 24 hrs.
- Federal Dispatch Centers may enter into cooperative agreements with other agencies, or amend existing agreements, to provide dispatching services outside of normal field operation hours.
- Each Dispatch Center will have a work schedule that allows them to meet the needs and scheduled work hours/shifts of field going personnel.

- CAL FIRE Command Centers will use CAL FIRE issuance publications, in particular the 8100 Command and Control Handbook, as their operational guides.
- Each Federal Unit will utilize operational guides which define procedures and required actions for all hazardous activities. These guides will be available in each Dispatch Center and field office.
- All field going personnel will remain in radio contact with the Dispatch Center unless otherwise arranged through the Center.
- Dispatch Centers are to communicate weather forecasts to all field going personnel, especially firefighters according to agency direction. Dispatch Centers are to update field personnel of changes in predicted weather patterns.

GACC Dispatch Procedures

The GACC will fill orders from the most appropriate source available. The most appropriate source will be determined on the basis of urgency, resource availability, delivery time, reasonable cost effectiveness, impact on other Units, and consideration of the overall fire program. Within 30 minutes, the ability or inability to fill the order will be relayed to GACC by the Unit attempting to fill the order. Objectives of the GACC include:

- Provide 24-hour dispatch and coordination services. Dispatch personnel, equipment, aircraft, and supplies between GACC's, Units, other States, or agencies. Expand the GACC dispatching organization to meet current demands.
- Maintain status on amounts and location of specified overhead, crews, equipment, aircraft, and supplies.
- Assist in determining GACC priorities for overhead, crews, equipment, aircraft, and supplies in multiple incident situations, and fill requests accordingly.
- Inform State and Federal Duty Chief, Units, National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC), and other cooperating agencies of current and critical incident situations.
- Collect and distribute information concerning the overall incident situation.
- Encourage and practice close cooperation in using shared resources with other cooperating agencies, as well as private wildland fire services, including contract and agreement resources.
- Anticipate requirements, evaluate requests in light of the actual and imminent incident situation, and question (through proper channels) orders appearing to be out of balance with requirements, needs, or policy/procedure.
- The GACCs may fill each other's requests within California prior to requesting assistance from NICC.
- The GACC Duty Chiefs will work closely to support each other's existing needs.

NICC Dispatch Procedures

NICC will follow defined national mobilization guidelines.

Mutual Aid

Mutual aid is utilized when an incident is likely to exceed, or has exceeded, the ability of the responsible agency to control. Agencies receiving mutual aid are responsible for logistical support to all mutual aid personnel and equipment.

For agreements governing mutual aid, refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 80.

Request for Assistance

After local agreements and mutual aid resources have been exhausted, requests for assistance should be placed directly with the appropriate GACC for state and federal resources or Fire and Rescue Operational Area for CAL OES and local government resources. A file of all mutual aid and other agreements will be maintained in the ECCs. These files will be available to the GACC upon request.

Support to Border Fires

A border fire is defined as a wildfire that has crossed the boundary from one GACC into another, or which is expected to cross the boundary within two burning periods. For specific operating plans and agreements, refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 80.

Since both GACCs have a responsibility and authority to provide resource support to the incident, they may place requests for resources directly between each other in order to support the incident. The following protocols apply:

- A single ordering point will be designated to ensure proper assignment and demobilization of resources. The incident will remain with the originating Unit for situation reporting and prioritization.
- The dispatch organization designated as the single ordering point may place orders to either GACC using established ordering channels; however only the GACC of the designated single ordering point is authorized to place requests up to NICC.
- Prior to initiating border fire support operations, concurrence and agreement must occur between the two GACCs and NICC. Coordinate as needed to maintain effective incident and GACC support.

Unified Ordering Point (UOP)

When an incident involves more than one jurisdiction, and unified command is activated, a unified ordering point (UOP) shall be established.

Purpose

To establish a single ordering point for all resources required by the incident.

Goal

The goal of the UOP is to allow the agencies involved in the incident the opportunity to fill requests at the lowest level including the use of local mutual aid and assistance, to avoid duplication of orders and to provide a single system for tracking resources for cost share agreements.

Guidelines

- The unified commanders will determine which agency ECC will be identified as the UOP. Notification will be made immediately by each agency involved.
- The UOP should be staffed with personnel from all agencies involved in unified command. Once the UOP has been designated, it should remain at that location for the duration of unified command.
- The UOP will use the Order Number that has been assigned by the agency in whose Direct Protection Area (DPA) the incident started. This number should not change for the duration of the incident.
- All requests from the incident will be processed through the UOP.
- The UOP will utilize local agency resources and those available through agreements with local cooperators of the agency assuming financial responsibility before passing requests to the next level.
- When the UOP is unable to fill a request, it will be placed to the next level ECC based on the UOP host's agency dispatch channels.
- The incident will order cache items direct from the nearest national cache.
- Refer to California Mobilization Guide Chapter 40 for Hired Equipment.

Relocating the UOP

It may be necessary to relocate the UOP due to one of the following conditions:

- The incident returns to a single jurisdiction (the UOP will be terminated and the responsible agency ECC will assume the role).
- Unified commanders are advised and concur that limited or unsatisfactory service will result if the UOP remains at the current location.

The following guidelines are recommended:

- Determine the new location.
- All documents (or clean copies) will be moved to the new UOP location prior to commencing operations.
- Allow adequate time for transition including movement of UOP personnel and documents.

Resource Ordering

ROSS shall be used for documenting mobilization and demobilization actions of all resources. Reference the California ROSS Business Practices and Standards guide for procedures in utilizing the program.

The Resource Order form will be used as the backup for all agencies. Refer to the California Mobilization Guide, Appendix A.

All resource requests will be submitted using Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS). Only requests for aircraft and/or immediate need ground forces may be made using the intercom, then followed as quickly as possible with the matching ROSS request. This allows immediate-need resource requests to be processed in the most expedient manner. All other ordering is to be accomplished utilizing ROSS and the telephone.

Request Information

Request Number:
Reference the California ROSS Business Practices and Standards document for detailed information regarding requests. All known information, as detailed as possible, including the financial code and reporting instructions, will be entered into ROSS.

Federal FireCode:
A FireCode will be generated for all incidents using federal resources or resources from federal caches.
Non-federal Units that have interagency or collocated federal cooperator, the federal cooperator will generate the FireCode.

The first federal Unit or GACC assisting a standalone non-federal Unit will generate the FireCode and provide it to the host Unit to enter into ROSS.

For out of GACC requests the host GACC will create the FireCode.

Travel Mobilization and Demobilization

Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) will be used for mobilization and demobilization of resources from all incidents. All times (ETA and ETD) are in local time zones.

Mobilization travel will normally be arranged by the sending Unit and demobilization travel will be arranged by the incident host. In the event the incident host or sending Unit does not have the ability to make necessary travel arrangements, contact the GACC for direction.

Demobilization of personnel and resources from the incident to the home Unit must follow the chain of command and remain within established communication channels. Complete and accurate records of personnel, transportation, and equipment are a must.
Commercial airline travel will be documented in ROSS using the Travel Itinerary function.
Any travel involving a known RON (Remain Over Night) location will also be documented in ROSS using the Travel Itinerary function.

CAL FIRE
Some CAL FIRE Units have approved initial attack operating plans with jurisdictions out-of-state. In those cases, dispatch resources in accordance with those plans. Whenever possible have the requesting out-of-state agency make travel arrangements for CAL FIRE personnel through the host agency's travel agent so the bill can be paid directly by the requesting agency. For out of state travel on Federal incidents the GACC can assist with making flight and rental car arrangements. Reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 8100 procedure 600.

Emergency Demobilization
For emergency release of a resource, the Emergency Release Form will be completed by the host ECC and submitted to the GACC. Refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Appendix A.

Demobilization Planning
Demobilization planning should begin with the mobilization build-up.

Notify the GACC prior to releasing out of Unit resources. Approval for releases will be obtained from each level involved in processing the original request. This allows the agencies the opportunity to reassign resources efficiently.
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Demobilization Considerations

- Release Timing: The planning section will alert the incident host Unit with adequate lead time to allow planning to be accomplished.
- Payments: Each agency will follow their incident business plan for incident payment processes.
- Transportation: Costs should be considered in determining release priority. Sufficient lead time is imperative in arranging for transportation to be at the departure point when crews or personnel are ready to depart. Late night releases or travel are to be avoided. Every effort will be made for released resources to be home or RON by 2200, local time.
- Communications: Adequate communication between key personnel (i.e. Plans Section Chief, Demob Unit Leader, Logistics Chief, Ground Support Unit Leader, Finance Team, Agency Representative if applicable, GACC and home Unit.) must be established and maintained. It is important that the ECC receive notice of ETA of returning personnel in sufficient time to arrange for their travel.

Demobilization Plan
All extended attack incidents involving out of Unit or national resources will have a demobilization plan. A copy will be provided to the incident expanded dispatch and the GACC in a timely manner prior to resources being released from the incident.

Each Demobilization Plan has five parts:

1. **General Information**.
   Includes procedures to get resources from incident base to home.
2. **Responsibility**.
   Includes specific procedures and responsibility for each function on release, schedule and transportation, or other specific areas that need to be covered.
3. **Release priority**.
   Includes procedures to coordinate and establish a release priority list.
4. **Release procedures**.

Includes specific procedures to be followed for surplus resources.

5. **Incident Directory**.
   Includes all communication methods from base to dispatch, with a list of names and phone numbers for all functions.

Contract Resources/Hired Equipment

Federal

Administratively Determined (AD)/Casual Hire refers to individual personnel hired for emergency purposes. Reference the federal Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook.

Contract engines and crews are a resource of the host Unit dispatch center. The contract resources will be dispatched through the host Unit.

Regional contract resources may be utilized when agency resources are insufficient to meet present and anticipated needs according to the Unit's Specific Action Guide and/or the Geographic Area Staffing Guide.

Units will check the availability of agency resources (federal/state) within their GACC prior to using contracted resources. When mobilizing contract resources, Units will utilize agency owned resources first, followed by agency cooperators, national contract resources, regional contract resources, and then contract resources, according to agency direction. Requests for contract resources will follow normal dispatch procedures.

Contract resources ordered in strike team configuration will use agency personnel as the strike team leader.

For mobilization of national contract resources, reference the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 30 for crews and Chapter 40 for Equipment and Supplies.

For mobilization of Regional Forest Service contract resources, refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 30 for Crews and Chapter 40 for Equipment.

CAL FIRE

Hired equipment resources may be utilized when agency resources are insufficient to meet present and anticipated needs. The contract resources will be dispatched through the host Unit.

Specifics for hired equipment and emergency workers can be found in CAL FIRE Handbooks 3900 and 7700, section 3934 and section 7761.

Refer to California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 40 for Hired Equipment.

Preparedness Plan

Preparedness Plan For Wildland Fire Agencies Of California

The Preparedness Plan is endorsed by the California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (CWCG) which represents the following agencies:

United States Forest Service
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Governor's Office of Emergency Services
CAL FIRE Contract Counties

Purpose

California will have two preparedness levels, corresponding to the North and South Geographic Areas. These levels will reflect fire activity and fire weather conditions in each Geographical Area and therefore may be different. California's commitment to meet National activities will only extend to federal personnel and resources which are available. State, County, and Local Fire Department Resources can only be made available on a case by case basis determined at the time requested.

The purpose of the Preparedness Plan is:

- To coordinate workforce and equipment needs for wildland fire activities and prescribed fire.
- To ensure that fire protection responsibilities and commitments to prescribed fire do not exceed State wildland fire capabilities, and are coordinated with state and national wildland fire activities.

Monitoring

Preparedness Levels 1, 2, and 3 will be monitored and managed by the GACC in Redding and Riverside. The determination of these levels will represent a consensus of the Interagency Coordinators from the Forest Service, Department of the Interior, and CAL FIRE management. Preparedness Levels 4 and 5 will be declared by a consensus of the members of the CWCG / CalMAC (California Multi-Agency Coordination Group). The GACC will contact the Chair of CWCG to recommend moving above Preparedness Level 3. The Chair of CWCG will contact the members or representatives to develop consensus on the recommendation, and report the result to the GACC. CWCG does not need to convene for moving from Preparedness Level 4 to Preparedness Level 3.

Preparedness Level Activation and Deactivation

Based on fire weather, fire activity, and resource commitment to wildland fires, prescribed fires, and fuels projects, each GACC will start preparedness planning no later than May 1 and continue to at least October 15 of every year.

Each agency representative will initiate the restrictions imposed by the preparedness levels upon those lands within their jurisdiction. Federal agencies will impose these restrictions that are required by the National Preparedness Plan as well.

Managers of prescribed fires and fuels projects using national resources (Type 1 handcrews, air tankers, etc.) are to request the use of the national resources from the appropriate GACC each day prior to implementation. GACC agency coordinators will also track the planned use of these national resources in contingency planning to avoid simultaneous commitment of the same resources to multiple fires or projects.

Preparedness Levels

Preparedness Level 1

Definition: Few or no class A, B, and C wildland fires. Minimal or no commitment of interagency resources to suppression activities. Current and short-range predictions for low to moderate fire danger. Local Units implementing prescribed fire operations with sufficient contingency resources available. Agencies above drawdown levels and requests for personnel and resources outside of the local area are not occurring.

Action/Responsibility:

- North and South GACC post preparedness levels out on the daily situation report for agency field Units.
- North and South GACC to notify NICC of starting preparedness planning or daily preparedness level.
- All prescribed fires within Geographical Areas are to be reported to the respective GACC for inclusion in the morning report. Coordinators to notify Units if national/shared resources are not available as contingency resources.

Preparedness Level 2

Definition: Numerous class A, B, and C wildland fires. Local commitment of interagency resources for initial attack, fuels projects and wildfires managed for ecological objectives. Current and short-term weather predictions for moderate fire danger. Local Units implementing prescribed fire operations with sufficient contingency resources available. Agencies above drawdown levels and requests for personnel and resources outside of the local area are of minimal to low impact.

Action/Responsibility:

- Continue Preparedness Level 1 activities.

Preparedness Level 3

Definition: High potential for Class D and larger fires to occur, with several active Class A, B, and C fires. Mobilization of agency and interagency resources within the geographic area, but minimal mobilization between or outside of geographic area. Current and short-term forecasted fire danger is moving from medium to high or very high. Local Units implementing prescribed fire operations starting to compete for interagency contingency resources.

Agencies still above drawdown levels for suppression resources, but starting to have difficulty maintaining sufficient resources to meet initial attack responsibilities, project fire support, and fuel projects/prescribed fire requirements without prioritizing or using non-local support. Some critical resource needs are starting to be identified.

Action/Responsibility:

- Continue previous preparedness activities.
- CWCG chair is made aware by GACC's when fire danger, fire activity, drawdown, and GACC mobilization patterns likely to lead to Level 4. Chair of CWCG informs members of current preparedness level in advance of moving to Preparedness Level 4.
- When a prescribed burn is scheduled or is in progress the appropriate Coordination Center will be informed through agency channels of the date of ignition, acres planned to be burned during the next 24 hours, and acres burned the previous day.
- Cooperating agencies can limit the use of their resources as contingency resources, or make them unavailable for use on prescribed fires.
- Establish contact with appropriate geographic area military aviation assets and apprise them of current preparedness level.

Preparedness Level 4

Definition: Continuing initial attack activity and Class D or larger fires are common in one or both geographic areas. Resource ordering and mobilization of personnel is occurring between GACC. The long range forecast for the next week indicates continued high fire danger. Local Units may implement new fuels and prescribed fire projects, but operational and contingency resources must be provided by the agency or by local arrangements.

Long range fire weather forecasts predict high to very high fire danger. Significant potential exists for moving into extreme fire danger in at least one geographic area.

Personnel and resources at minimum drawdown levels, especially for initial attack. Fuels projects and prescribed fires can only be implemented with agency contingency resources or special arrangements within the local Units.

Mobilization and resource requests are occurring for suppression assignments within the GACC and between the Northern and Southern GACC.

Action/Responsibility:

- Continue with previous preparedness activities.
- CalMAC determines the need for conference calls.
- Consider activation of the California Interagency Military Helicopter Firefighting Program.
- Consider activating Military Aviation Operations Coordinator to proactively work with local military aviation assets.

Preparedness Level 5

Definition: CalMAC is fully activated. Agencies are below drawdown levels. Class D and larger fires are common in one or both geographic area. Either or both GACCs cannot fill many outstanding resources requests and are sending these orders to NICC. Use of local government resources is common. Reassignment of personnel and resources between incidents is common.

Current and short range weather forecasts predict very high to extreme fire danger. Long range forecasts for the next week for either GACC indicate continued very high to extreme fire danger. Activation of National Guard or military personnel and resources is being considered or has occurred.

Requests for CAL FIRE resources are causing the agency to drop below drawdown levels. State and Local government personnel are being used to fill out-of-state requests. Actual and long range fire danger predictions are for very high or extreme.

Personnel and resources are at or below agency minimum drawdown levels.

Action/Responsibility:

- CalMAC has been activated either with conference calls or at one location. Statewide priorities being set by CalMAC.
- The status of on going fuels projects or prescribed fires will be reviewed by CalMAC, as well as any proposed new fuels/wildland fire use/prescribed fire projects. Final decision to implement rests with implementing agency.
- No new prescribed fire without approval by CalMAC representative that these activities are expected to have no significant effect on suppression activities. Existing projects should consider different management strategies to make personnel available for suppression activities elsewhere. Final decision to implement these projects rests with the implementing agency.
- Individual Units will report resource status to CalMAC as specified (as needed).
- CalMAC assesses statewide/national situation for determination of the need for resources.

Guidelines for Determining Preparedness Level
The following information will be used to determine preparedness levels for the Northern Operations and Southern Operations, and/or the entire state.

- Current California and National fire situation.
- National Preparedness levels.
- Predicted fire potential.
- Firefighting resource availability.

Move up
When resource availability becomes critical and extreme incident danger is expected to continue, move up resources may become necessary (aircraft, crews, engines, etc.).

Forest Service
Resource move up must be approved prior to such action taking place. Each GACC Coordinator must assess the situation, and if such actions are determined necessary, approve expenditure of funds for move-up.

CAL FIRE
When resources are needed for move up from outside a Unit, the Unit must enter a request into ROSS and place the request to the GACC. The GACC will assess the overall situation of the Region, and shall place the requests with the appropriate Unit to fill. Reference the CAL FIRE 8100 Handbook, policy 8121.

BLM & NPS
Requests for resource move-up will be initiated by the requesting District or Park and coordinated through the DOI Coordinator. Move up requests will then be processed through normal procedures through the respective GACC.

Drawdown Levels
Drawdown definitions for engines, crews and aircraft:

0 There is **no resource drawdown** (fully staffed with minimal commitment to initial attack). Initial attack success is highly probable.

1 Resource **drawdown is Moderate** (approximately two/thirds of resources available). Initial attack success is likely.

2 Resource **drawdown is Significant** (approximately one half of resources available). Initial attack success is marginal.

3 Resource **drawdown is Critical** (approximately one/third of resources available). Initial attack success is questionable. There are insufficient resources to support any new large fires.

Forest Service Minimum Drawdown Standard
The following matrix depicts the minimum resources necessary to ensure Forest Service GACC coverage:

	North Ops	**South Ops**
Type 1 Crews	4	4
Smokejumpers Load	1	0
Helicopters	4	4
Airtankers (heavy) on order	1	1
Type 2 IMT's	1	1
Aerial supervision	1	1

DOI Agencies Drawdown Levels

Department of Interior Agencies will follow the identified draw down levels per the Agencies Fire Management Plans.

CAL FIRE Drawdown Levels

CAL FIRE incident drawdown levels are defined in the CAL FIRE 8100 Handbook, policy 8121.

California Incident Priorities

When California is involved in multiple incidents that are drawing resources, the cooperators (USFS, CAL FIRE, BLM, NPS, and other wildland agencies) will prepare a California Incident Priority List.

The GACC will revise the list daily and provide it to NICC, the GACCs, involved cooperators, and Units with incidents. Priorities are negotiated with involved cooperators and incorporated into the Multiagency Coordinating Group (MAC) Incident Status Summary, ICS Form 209, and other documents.

MACS Group Procedure Guide (MACS 410-1) can be found at this web address:
http://www.firescope.org/macs-docs/MACS-410-1.pdf

Joint Criteria Used To Determine Priorities:

Threats and Potential for Current and Projected:

A. Life and Safety Threats (Public and Emergency Responders) (maximum total points is 15)

Definition: Events which increase complexity, resulting in high potential for serious injury and/or death.

A.1 Evacuations	**Rating**
In Progress	5
Precautionary	3-4
Potential (48-72 hrs.) or Completed	1-2

A.2 Road, Highway or Freeway Closures	
Major Highway or Freeway	4-5
State Routes or Improved Roadways	2-3
Potential for Closures 48-72 hrs.	1

A.3 Extreme Fire Behavior, Weather Event, Natural or Human Caused Disasters	
Occurring or Predicted/Forecasted to Continue (24 hrs.)	5
Predicted/Forecasted 24-72 hrs.	3-4
Occurring but Predicted/Forecasted to Diminish	1-2

B. Property Threatened and/or High Damage (Next 48 hours) (maximum total points is 15)

Definition: This category relates to potential for damage or actual impact to Communities or other high value investments that contribute to dwellings, commercial workplaces and critical infrastructure that supports human life, income or support to the general population. Threats under this category should not be listed unless there is significant potential to impact these elements and an eminent threat is recognized within a 48-hour timeframe.

B.1 Structures (residential, commercial, vacation or other)	**Rating**
200+	4-5
25-200	3-4
<25	1-2

B.2 Community Loss (within 48 hours)

Potential for >75% Community Loss	5
Potential for 50-75% Community Loss	4
Potential for 25-50% Community Loss	3
Potential for <25% Community Loss	1-2

B.3 Infrastructure – National, State, Local (Power Lines, Energy Corridors, Domestic Water Systems, Communications Grid, Railroads, etc.)

Systems shutdown and/or damaged	5
Potential threat 24-48 hrs.	3-4
Potential threat 72+ hrs.	1-2

C. Resource Issues and Potential for Loss (maximum total points is 20)

Definition: Resource concerns can vary widely depending on place and type of resource considered. Each of the below items must be carefully considered in its relation to both local/regional or national significance and may have economic impact at local or regional levels. Resources that are not commercial should be considered in the Natural Resources category rather than in both Natural and Commercial Resources. Consider timeframes and proximity when rating.

	Rating
C.1 Historical and Significant Cultural Resources	1-5
C.2 Natural Resources (T&E Species Hab., Watershed, Forest Health, Soils, Airshed, etc.)	1-5
C.3 Commercial Resources (Grazing, Timber, Agricultural Crops, etc.)	1-5
C.4 Potential for Economic Impact (Tourism i.e. fishing, hunting; loss of jobs, etc.)	1-5

D. Incident Complexity/Duration (maximum total points is 10)

Definition: Multiple incidents or complex of incidents versus a single incident have a way of making prioritization setting difficult. However, it is common enough that it needs to be included in the process. Attention needs to be given to travel distances, support to incident personnel and logistical challenges not always associated with a single incident.

Timely containment implies that if all critical resource needs from the 209 were met, then containment objectives would be met within the specified timeframes indicated. Containment at an early date is beneficial during high activity periods and would result in earlier resource reassignment opportunities to supplement Initial Attack or to assist other incidents.

D.1 Complex vs. Single Incident	**Rating**
5+ incidents or >25,000 acres	4-5
3-4 incidents or 5-25,000 acres	2-3
1-2 incidents or <5,000 acres	1

D.2 Potential for Timely Containment and/or Mitigation	**Rating**
<72 hrs.	5
3-7 days	4
8-14 days	3
15-21 days	2
Unknown or long term management	1

NOTE: Initial attack, new starts, and life threatening situations have overall priority, overriding the priorities listed above.

Handling Hazardous Materials

Procedures for handling hazardous materials can be found in each Unit's Plan for Handling Hazardous Materials. Reference materials listed below are to assist in the appropriate handling of these materials.

- Transportation of Hazardous Materials - 49 CFR, Sections 106-180
- Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook.
- Medical Waste Management Act, California Health and Safety Code Division 20, Chapter 6.1.
- International Air Transportation Association (IATA) 35th Edition.
- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

Dozer and Helicopter Use in Wilderness and Special Areas

Forest Service

Agency Administrators will prepare requests for use of dozers and helicopter within wilderness areas. Requests will be specific in terms of work to be considered (length and width of fire line, and other factors), and consequences of not using the equipment. The request will go through the Agency Administrator, who will obtain permission or denial from the Regional Forester. The request will be in writing, via electronic mail, or by telephone if after hours (followed up in writing the next day).

Department of Interior Lands

BLM State Director approval is required for use of dozers on Bureau of Land Management Wilderness Areas and Wilderness Study Areas (WSA). In Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) the local agency administrator can approve dozer use. On all other DOI Units the approval is given by the local Unit Agency Administrator.

Disaster Procedures

Federal Resource Response

With a federal declaration the federal agencies will provide assistance based on the Emergency Support Function (ESF) identified under the declaration (for additional information http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nrf/nrf-esf-intro.pdf).

Without a Presidential declaration of a major disaster, the ability of the federal agencies to react is lessened. Local Units must respond within their normal authorities and under local agreements. Authority to take action in disasters and emergencies when there is an imminent threat to life or property is the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (PL 93-288). Where there is no agreement in effect, the Act of May 27, 1955 authorizes the Forest Service to take action for incident emergencies and the BLM Manual authorizes the BLM to take action where a life threat exists.

CAL FIRE Resource Response

CAL FIRE Units can respond to non-fire incidents based on Unit Chief discretion or may be mission tasked by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Reference CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy 8162.

Accident and Incident Reporting

Follow Agency Specific Policies.

Critical Incident Stress Management Procedures (CISM)

A Critical Incident is any incident so unusually stressful and powerful that it breaks through an individual's emotional defenses to cause an immediate or delayed emotional reaction that may be beyond a person's ability to cope. Examples of critical incident and when to call for support are:

- Death of a team or crew member.
- Fire shelter deployment, loss of life following (or despite) unusual physical or emotional effort (rescue personnel, co-workers providing assistance, etc.).
- An accident with casualties/injuries or an incident with serious potential to have caused an accident.
- Incidents requiring the suppression of normal reactions.
- Events charged with profound emotion.

All local, state, and federal fire fighting agencies endorse the use of CISM in California. The agencies offer CISM services to all personnel exposed to critical incident situations on the job. To this end, regardless of which Unit has management and control, CISM should be offered to personnel following a critical incident situation. Critical Incident Stress Management interventions are most effective when applied 72 hours or longer after a critical incident. It is important for personnel to operationally disengage and often reconnect with family or other support before participating in CISM services.

Requests for CISM support should be made by the Agency Administrator or designee to the appropriate GACC (see specific agency for direction below). A general overview of the situation is required and the GACC will work with the CISM Coordinator to facilitate placing resource orders as needed via a roster in ROSS. CISM support group personnel are ordered as THSP.

The following information should be provided to assist the responding CISM group:

- Description (type) of incident.
- Number of employees in need of CISM services.
- Whether any family members or children are involved. (Note: Authority to provide service to FS and CAL FIRE family members is covered under the EAP -- which extends services to family members for the benefit of employees and the agency.)
- Date and time of incident.
- Desired day, time, and location for support services. However the CISM Coordinator will determine the most appropriate time and location based on the incident, resource availability and number of personnel involved.
- Name and phone number of Unit contact.
- Name, phone number, and location on site of main contact for on site coordination, once CISM specialist arrives.

Federal Incidents

The GACCs have established an Interagency Critical Incident Stress Peer Support Program with the federal agencies to provide assistance to personnel who have been involved in traumatic events. To order CISM Peer Support Groups contact the Duty Chief or AD through either GACC at: Northern Operations 530-226-2800 Southern Operations 951-276-6725.

The CISM Coordinator will work with the Agency Administrator or designee to coordinate the response. The CISM Coordinator and designated CISM group lead will coordinate with the Incident Commander or team designee if there is an Incident Command team assigned.

Region 5 does not host or mobilize "CISM Teams" but provides peer support.

Critical Incident Stress Management Callout procedures provide an organized approach to the management of stress responses for personnel having been exposed to a traumatic event in the line of

duty. The establishment of these procedures does not prevent an employee from seeking individual consultation through the Employee Assistance Program.

Under no circumstances should CISM or any of its components be considered psychotherapy or a substitute for psychotherapy. Peer and Group Supporters are not licensed health care professionals and should not be utilized in lieu of a licensed clinician. A clinician is ordered at the time of the support group being organized and has skills specific to the incident being managed.

The costs for CISM services in fire operations are to be charged to the fire incident's management code. Non-fire incidents should be charged to the Unit.

CAL FIRE Incidents

CAL FIRE Units should be familiar with local procedures for CISM Team activation, reference CAL FIRE Handbook 1800, Policy 1861.